

Creating Solutions Across Jurisdictional Boundaries

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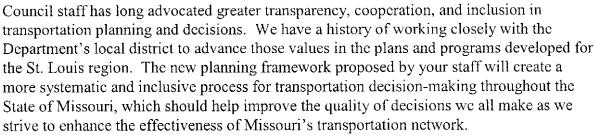
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Les Sterman

February 23, 2004

Mr. Kevin Keith Chief Engineer Missouri Department of Transportation 105 W. Capitol Avenue P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0270

Dear Mr. Keith:



We want to express our support for the Department's new planning framework, and we encourage the Commission's endorsement.

Sincerely,

Les Sterman

Executive Director

Gateway Tower One Memorial Drive, Suite 1600 St. Louis, MO 63102

324 423-4226 E18-274-2750 Fax 314-231-6120

webmaster@ewgateway.org www.ewgateway.org



Ozarks Transportation Organization

February 19, 2004

Mr. Kyle Kittrell, P.E. Transportation Planning Director Missouri Department of Transportation 2217 St. Mary's Boulevard P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102 RECEIVED
FEB 2 3 1934
TRANSPORTATION - PLANNING

Dear Mr. Kittiell.

At our February 19th Board of Directors meeting of the Ozarks Transportation Organization, (the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Springfield, Missouri area), the Board reviewed "Missouri's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making." The Board of Directors endorsed the concept of a planning framework and agreed in principal with the prioritization process, but noted some concerns with the document presented. For our Board of Directors to be completely satisfied with the process outlined in this document, the Ozarks Transportation Organization asks that the Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) commit to the following stipulations:

- 1. To continue to work with MoDOT planning partners in fine-tuning the project prioritization criteria. Two of our top five priorities, when tested by MoDOT staff, did not score well using the prioritization criteria. One project is a study to determine how North-South routes should be prioritized for construction. The other project is a brand new facility to provide a vital link between our relocated airport terminal and the community at large. In our opinion, specific criteria need to be developed that do not rely heavily on existing traffic data so that studies and new facilities have an equal opportunity to score well in the prioritization process. The smaller jurisdictions in our MPO are also concerned about any references to cost sharing or leveraging that do not relate specifically to the statewide \$20 million cost-share program.
- 2. To expand the document within the next two years to include other modes such as freight, non-motorized transportation, and transit, as well as efficiency factors related to transportation system management and transportation demand management.

We look forward to working with you in the future as we improve "Missouri's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making" and trust that you will share our comments with the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission at their March meeting.

Sincerely.

David Coonrod

Chair

Ozarks Transportation Organization

City of Jefferson

10.10

John Landwehr Mayor

Department of Community Development 320 East McCarty Jefferson City, Missouri 65101 Patrick E. Sullivan, P.E., Director Phone: 573-634-6410 Fax: 573-634-6457

February 26, 2004

Mr. Kyle Kittrell
Transportation Planning Director
Missouri Department of Transportation
P. O. Box 270
Jefferson City, Missouri 65105

Dear Mr. Kittrell:

The Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making proposed by the Missouri Department of Transportation documents a process for addressing Missouri's transportation priorities and investment decisions that incorporates a technical aspect and continuous public involvement component. The integration of these processes provides the opportunity to achieve transportation decisions that are technically sound, financially feasible and have broad-based support.

The Technical Planning Committee of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization has endorsed the Planning Framework on this date. The Committee supports the Planning Framework as an effort to reflect regional and statewide values, environmental considerations and priorities and incorporate them into a rational transportation planning process. The Committee encourages the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission to adopt the Planning Framework.

The Committee applauds the effort to develop a predictable and consistent statewide process and looks forward to participating as a planning partner with the Missouri Department of Transportation as the Planning Framework is implemented.

Sincerely,

Janice McMillan, AICP

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Chairman, CAMPO Technical Planning Committee, and

Deputy Director, Department of Community Development/Planning & Transportation



CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

OFFICE OF CITY MANAGER

January 19, 2004

Mr. Kyle Kittrell, Transportation Planning Director Missouri Department of transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65105

RE: Planning Framework

RECEIVED

TRANSPORTATION - PLANNING

Dear Mr. Kittrell:

It is widely known that the State of Missouri has many more transportation needs than there are funds available to address them. This situation makes it that much more critical that the highest priority projects are chosen to receive the limited amount of available funding. At the same time, transportation investment decisions are becoming more complex as such factors as public values and environmental issues enter the equation along with traffic safety, congestion and economic growth.

The proposed Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making is intended to be a new tool to help make better transportation investment decisions. The process created by the Planning Framework combines effective planning with project evaluation which should facilitate more consistent decision-making in the setting of priorities for funding. The process includes the involvement of local officials who are members of metropolitan planning organizations and regional planning commissions.

While the Planning Framework includes a number of steps and requires considerable data, it represents the most promising approach for determining where scarce transportation dollars should be spent that has been developed to date. As such, we support its adoption and implementation. After some use, the results will demonstrate whether minor adjustments are needed or if a different system is needed. We are hopeful that this tool will prove useful and effective but only time will tell.

Please let me know if we can be of any further assistance.

Very truly yours,

Raymond A. Beck, P.E.

Chairman, Columbia Area Transportation Study Organization

600 Broadway, Suite 300 Kansas City, Missouri 64105-1554

816/474-4240 816/421-7758 FAX www.marc.org RECEIVED
FEB 0 2 2004



TRANSPORTATION - PLANNING

January 29, 2004

Mr. Kevin Keith
Chief Engineer
Missouri Department of Transportation
105 West Capitol Avenue
P.O. Box 270
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Kevin:

Thank you for developing MoDOT's Planning Framework to engage local government officials in making decisions about how we will invest in the state's transportation system. We appreciate the open process you've followed, and the opportunities you've provided for us to offer comments and suggestions. We shared information about the Planning Framework to MARC's Total Transportation Policy Committee and Board of Directors in January, and they offer the following:

We are very pleased to see that the latest draft appears to address most of the comments MARC sent to MoDOT staff in October 2003:

- MoDOT has continued to involve MARC and other stakeholders in the development of this process;
- The new draft reinforces MoDOT's commitment to document agreements about the details
 of their relationship with MARC and other stakeholders;
- The new draft clarifies the relationship between MoDOT's Statewide Plan and Transportation Improvement Program with the plans and programs of MARC and other Metropolitan Planning Organizations;
- The new draft adds details about how statewide Interstate Program projects are evaluated and selected; and
- While the processes described in the new draft are no less complicated than in previous versions, an executive summary has been added which simplifies the explanation of these processes by providing a high level overview.

January 29, 2004 Page Two

MARC is generally supportive of this direction for MoDOT's Planning Framework provided that MoDOT works with MARC to develop a letter of agreement or memorandum of understanding to document the specific roles and responsibilities of MARC, MoDOT and the Commission in planning for state-system projects in the Kansas City area, and that MoDOT works with MARC to test these processes for regional projects before requiring that they be used in the Kansas City area.

Please contact me or Mell Henderson, MARC's director of transportation, should you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

David A. Warm Executive Director

CC:

Kyle Kittrell Marcie Meystrik Sabin Yanez Lee Ann Kell



ST. JOSEPH AREA TRANSPORTATION STUDY ORGANIZATION

Transportation Planning for the Kansas & Missouri Departments of Transportation; Counties of Buchanan, Doniphan, & Andrew; Cities of Wathena, Elwood, Savannah & St. Joseph; Village of Country Club

City Hall
1100 Frederick Avenue, Room 204
St. Joseph, MO 64501
Telephone: (816) 271-4653
David Jones, Chairman

The Federally Designated Planning Organization for the Greater St. Joseph Area

23 January, 2004

Henry Hungerbeeler, Director Missouri Department of Transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102 RECEIVED

MISSOURI DEPT. OF TRANS.

DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Re: Missouri's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making

Dear Mr. Hungerbeeler:

At the 15 January, 2004 meeting of the St. Joseph MPO's Technical Committee, *Missouri's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making* document was again reviewed and discussed. The issue was then forwarded to the Coordinating Committee for its consideration.

On behalf of the St. Joseph MPO, I would like to announce that the MPO formally endorses and supports the concepts contained within the referenced document. Certainly, further work needs to be made concerning processes referred to and certain definitions, but the MPO staff is comfortable with working with MoDot staff to resolve the remaining issues.

The process, when refined and followed consistently, can indeed be useful in setting a consistent and understandable direction for future investments in Missouri's transportation system. The St. Joseph MPO has been dedicated to this principal for years and is proud to join MoDot in that shared goal.

Sincerely,

David J. Jones, Chairman

St. Joseph MPO

Jh:djj

Cc:

MPO Board Members

321 E. Fourth Street • Joplin, MO 64801 • Phone (417) 624-0820 • FAX (417) 625-4738

January 25, 2004

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FEB 2 7 MM-

Mr. Kyle Kittrell, Transportation Planning Director Missouri Department of Transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

ISANSPORTATION - PLANNING

Dear Kyle:

The Joplin Area Transportation Study Organization (MPO) is grateful for the opportunity to participate in the process of preparing a Planning Framework that will help guide MoDOT in its obligation to meet the transportation goals for the State of Missouri. This exercise over the last months has given the MPO staff some insight regarding the project selection process and the limited resources available to MoDOT to meet the needs of the state transportation system now and into the future.

The Joplin MPO is generally supportive of the process with one exception. As we have pointed out in past meetings and letters, the notion of inserting another layer of quasi-governmental units, the RPC's, into the process of selecting projects for the District and State is moving the people farther away from MoDOT instead of closer. In the past MoDOT has indicated a need to get closer to the taxpayers to help them, MoDOT, decide which projects are in their best interest and the interests of the motoring public and then wants to interjects another layer or process between them and the people.

In the State of Missouri there are 114 counties, 19 Regional Planning Commissions, and 10 MoDOT District Offices. Of the 19 Regional Planning Commissions only 7 are totally within one District, the rest are divided among 2, 3 and 4 districts. Of the 10 districts, only one, District 6, has only one RPC within its boundaries. The rest of the Districts have at

least three and in District 5, there are 5 RPC's and one MPO. The task of reinventing the public participation process to manage this jumble of counties, RPC's, MPO's and Districts does not appear to be an efficient use of state time and money. Additionally, the Headquarters has assigned planners to all of the Districts that have the capability of building a public participation process that can produce results on a much more regional basis as well as maintaining the consistency between districts.

Again, the Joplin MPO supports this process, with this one exception and hopes the outcome for MoDOT and the state is positive.

Sincerely,

Richard Largent

Planning and Community Development Manager







ATCHISON

DONIPHAN

HIAWATHA

MORRILL

MISSOURI KANSAS

ANDREW BUCHANAN CLINTON DEKALB

February 25, 2004

Mr. Bill Stone Long Range Transportation Planning Coordinator Missouri Department of Transportation 2217 St. Mary's Blvd. P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Stone:

This letter is in support of the Missouri Department of Transportation's (MoDOT) proposed Missouri Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making. Mo-Kan Regional Council believes this framework is an important part in promoting accountability within MoDOT, ensuring integrity for the decision-makers and improving the decision-making process by allowing stakeholder participation. Furthermore, the suggested linking of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) and Transportation Advisory Councils (TAC) will certainly improve dialogue and communication on a regional scale.

Mo-Kan Regional Council has worked with MoDOT and local officials on many projects, and as a planning commission, we understand the importance of developing a long-term strategy. In addition, we believe that this plan has the vision, provides technical resources, as well as the experience, to successfully implement future projects. Potential changes in local development are creating a paradox for those who serve as stewards of public funding. This proposal offers concrete and tangible actions to facilitate the realization of educated decisions. Furthermore, the outcomes of this project could prove to be an important model for others.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Bliss

Mo-Kan Executive Director



42494 Delaware Lane Perry, MO 63462 Phone: 573-565-2203

Fax: 573-565-2205

mark twain regional council of governments

Serving the Northeast Missouri Counties of Audrain, Macon, Marion, Monroe, Pike, Ralls, Randolph & Shelby

February 18, 2004

Mr. Bill Stone Missouri Department of Transportation 105 W. Capitol Ave. Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Stone:

On behalf of the Mark Twain Regional Council of Governments we would like to take this opportunity to endorse and provide full support to the Missouri Department of Transportation for the Planning Framework process.

We feel that the Missouri Department of Transportation and all transportation stakeholders will benefit by utilizing this process.

We look forward to taking advantage of this tool to assist our agency with the prioritization of transportation needs within our region.

Sincerely,

Mark Fugua

Executive Director

MF:jb



MID-MISSOURI REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

206 East Broadway, P.O. Box 140 Ashland, MO 65010 Phone: (573) 657-9779 Fax: (573) 657-2829 mmrpc977@coin.org mmrpc.org

Serving counties of Boone, Callaway, Cole, Cooper, Howard and Moniteau

December 17, 2003

Marcie K. Meystrik, AICP Transportation Planning Coordinator Missouri Department of Transportation 2217 St. Mary's Blvd. Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Dear Marcie:

Please accept this letter as an endorsement from the Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission Board for the Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making process currently being considered by MODOT with input from our staff. It is evident that many hours of hard work have gone into the development of the Planning Framework. You and your staff are to be commended for your efforts in this important process.

Sincerely,

Eddie Brickner

Presiding Commissioner, Cooper County

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Mid-Missouri Regional Planning Commission President



A Council of Local Governments Serving the Meramec Area

January 23, 2004

4 Industrial Drive St. James, Missouri 65559 (573) 265-2993 FAX (573) 265-3550

Mr. Bill Stone Transportation Planning & Policy Development Missouri Department of Transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Stone:

The board of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission (MRPC) would like to commend the staff of the Missouri Department of Transportation for their work in developing a planning framework for transportation decisions. The framework is an excellent way to incorporate the public and rural elected officials in identifying transportation needs and prioritizing those needs, along with prioritizing the projects that develop as a result of the needs. As a rural region of the state, we support the effort to integrate input from our citizens.

Using the regional planning commission as a device for rural participation in transportation planning is both efficient and effective. Each county is represented on the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) which actively works with MoDOT staff to discuss transportation issues, identify needs and prioritize needs and projects. This input allows our collective voice to be heard when transportation decisions are made at a regional and state level.

The MRPC board would like to thank you and your staff for including us in the development process for the framework plan. We look forward to the improvement of our transportation system and our continued relationship with MoDOT.

Sincerely,

Randy Verkamp

President

Chairman: Randy Verkamp Presiding Commissioner, Phelps County

Vice Chairman: Gary Brown Mayor, City of Salem Secretary: Daryl Luecke Associate Commissioner, Osage County

Treasurer: James Kleffner Presiding Commissioner, Maries County





A Council of Local Governments Serving the Meramec Area

4 Industrial Drive St. James, Missouri 65559 (573) 265-2993 FAX (573) 265-3550

January 23, 2004

Mr. Bill Stone Transportation Planning & Policy Development Missouri Department of Transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Stone:

The Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission would like to offer our support for the work done by the staff of the Missouri Department of Transportation in developing the Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making. The TAC has followed the progress of the framework development and provided input through the MRPC staff. The framework plan is an excellent process to incorporate the public and rural elected officials in identifying transportation needs and prioritizing those needs, along with prioritizing the projects that develop as a result of the needs. The TAC has worked with District 5 and District 9 for many years to form a process to identify and prioritize transportation needs, and supports the effort to define a process that makes this uniform for all regions of the state.

Each county of the Meramec Region is represented on the TAC which actively works with MoDOT staff to discuss transportation issues, identify needs and prioritize needs and projects. Inclusion in the decision process allows rural representatives to convey the priorities of the region and work with MoDOT to accomplish more with the funding allowed.

The TAC would like to thank you and your staff for including us in the development process for the framework plan. We look forward to the improvement of our transportation system and our continued relationship with MoDOT.

Sincerely,

Chairmanan

Chairman: Randy Verkamp Presiding Commissioner, Phelps County

Vice Chairman: Gary Brown Mayor, City of Satem Secretary: Daryl Luecke Associate Commissioner, Osage County

Treasurer: James Kleffner Presiding Commissioner, Maries County

Herman Adv. Courier January 28, 2004

MRPC endorses MoDOT's plan that outlines public involvement in transportation decisions

The Meramec Regional Planning Commission, during its meeting Jan. 8, endorsed a new planning process that defines the role of local elected officials and the public in the state's transportation decision-making.

Known as Missouri's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making, the document has been developed over several months by the Missouri Department of Transportation and their planning partners, which includes transportation advisory committees and regional planning commissions across the state.

MRPC's Transportation Advisory Committee endorsed the planning framework in December and recommended that MRPC do so as well.

The planning framework defines each step of the planning and decision-making process and how they fit together and also defines the role of local officials and the public in each step of the planning and decision-making process. The document also includes processes for prioritizing needs and projects to ensure a degree of statewide consistency while allowing regional flexibility.

"Missouri has significantly more transportation needs than there are funds to address them," writers of the document acknowledge. "The Missouri Department of Transportation and its transportation partners realize effective planning and decision-making are vital when choosing priorities for transportation investments."

Once the processes are completely implemented, it will be easy to see how a project came from an identified need to an actual project that is carried out, and local officials and the public will make input throughout the process, prior to decision-making, MoDOT points out.

The new planning framework is designed to meet four objectives, according to MoDOT, including increasing the influence and involvement of local communities in decision-making, increasing predictability in the planning and decision-making process, promoting accountability and flexibility in the planning and decision-making process and ensuring the integrity of Missouri,s transportation system.

"Our staff has been very involved in the development of

the planning framework since the start and our TAC and board have had opportunities to review draft versions, and we are pleased with process," said Richard Cavender, executive director of the Meramec Regional Planning Commission. "Actually our TAC used a similar process in developing regional transportation priorities. MRPC served as a pilot project for MoDOT several years ago, and the framework expands on some of those planning and public involvement concepts and standardizes them for the state as a whole."

Cavender added, "We are pleased that MoDOT is working with regional planning commissions and metropolitan planning organizations to access local elected officials in an effective and meaningful manner."

Letters of endorsement, both from MRPC and the TAC, will be provided to MoDOT staff for presentation to the Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission in February.

In other business, the MRPC board approved a mid-year budget revision that reflects an increase in revenues and a decrease in expenses. MRPC, with a revised budget of \$1,332,987, hopes to finish the year with a \$36,000 surplus.

Formed in 1969, MRPC is a voluntary council of governments serving Crawford, Dent, Gasconade, Maries, Osage, Phelps and Washington counties and their respective cities.

The MRPC board will meet again Feb. 12 at its office at 4 Industrial Drive in St. James. All meetings are open to the public.



The Circen Hills Regional Planning Commission

1104 Mein St. P.O. Box 28 Trenton Mo. 64683 Phone (660) 359-5636 Fax (660) 359-3096 Email: ghtpo@ghtpo.org

January 21, 2004

Missouri Department of Transportation Attn: William Stone, Planning Division Liaison P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Endorsement of the Transportation Planning Framework

Dear Mr. Stone;

Green Hills Regional Planning Commission would like to endorse the Transportation Planning Framework that Missouri Department of Transportation has created to help plan new projects. Green Hills staff have been active through training meetings and advisory meetings with MoDOT staff on the subject and we feel that the new planning framework will further the transportation needs of rural Missourians.

Sincerely,

David Tolen,

President, Green Hills RPC

Randy Railsback,

Lance lain

Executive Director, Green Hills RPC

Lance Rains,

Transportation Coordinator, GHRPC

KAYSINGER BASIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
BATES BENTON CEDAR HENRY HICKORY ST. CLAIR VERNON



February 26, 2004

Mr. Bill Stone
Transportation Planning & Policy Development
Missouri Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 270
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102



RE: Statewide Transportation Planning Framework

Dear Mr. Stone:

Please accept this letter as an endorsement from the Kaysinger Basin Regional Planning Commission for the Planning Framework process to assist In making transportation decisions. Knowing that this tool will be used state-wide by the MoDOT Districts, as well as the regional planning commissions, assures the second and third tier communities input to the prioritization process. The framework, utilizing regional planning commissions, gives local citizens and governments direct and meaningful input to transportation decisions.

I encourage the Missouri Highway Commission to give favorable consideration to the Planning Framework document.

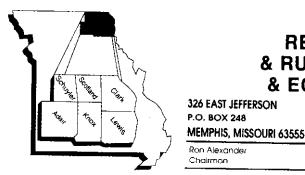
Sincerely,

Stanley "Bud" Hayes

Executive Director

Cc: Allan Zafft

Roger Steenbergen Scott Bachman Frank Miller



NORTHEAST MISSOURI

REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION & RURAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT

326 EAST JEFFERSON P.O. BOX 248

nemorpc@nemr.net

TELEPHONE 660 465-7281

FAX 660 465-7163

TDD 660 465-2442

Ron Alexander Chairman

Ed Carpenter

Eddie Brewei Secretary

Nancy Goehl Treasurer

David B. Shoush Executive Director

January 30,2004

Mr. Bill Stone Planning Division Liaison Missouri Department of Transportation PO Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Planning Framework Draft #8

Dear Bill:

The State of Missouri's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making Draft #8, January 7,2004 was presented to the Northeast Missouri Regional Planning Commission and Rural Development Corporation Executive Board on January 21, 2004. The Executive Board thoroughly endorsed this planning framework and approach to the Transportation planning process.

In addition the Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making Draft #8, January 7,2004 was forwarded to the Northeast Missouri Region Transportation Planning Organization (NEMO RTPO) and a phone canvassing was conducted. Through this process the NEMO RTPO has provided their endorsement as well to the Planning Framework process.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone at 660.465.7281 or email at dbsnerpc@nemr.net. Thank you.

Very Truly Yours,

David B. Shoush. **Executive Director**

Northeast Missouri RPC /RDC

And NEMO Regional Transportation Planning Organization









Bootheel Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission

Willard Adams - Chairman

Michael Dumey - Executive Director

P.O. BOX 397

PHONE (573) 276-2242 • FAX (573) 276-6034 • E-MAIL bootpc@sheltonbbs.com

MALDEN, MO 63863-0397

Established 1967 December 18, 2003

Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission MODOT 2217 St. Mary's Blvd. Jefferson City, MO 65102

Commissioners:

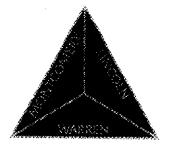
Upon the recommendation of our Transportation Advisory Committee, the Bootheel Regional Planning Commission voted today to endorse The Missouri Department of Transportation's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making.

The Planning Commission realizes that effective planning and decision-making are vital when choosing priorities for transportation investments and we hope this framework will create a more objective method for funding distribution in the future.

Sincerely,

Michael Dumey
Executive Director

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BOONSLICK REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

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50 F VOVE PART 6-88

P.O. BOX 429 122 EAST BOONESLICK RD. WARRENTON, MO 63383 (636) 456-3473 FAX (636) 456-2329 www.boonslick.org January 13, 2004



Mr. Kyle Kittrel, Transportation Planning Director Missouri Department of Transportation PO Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Ms. Marcie Meystrik, Planner Missouri Department of Transportation PO Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Mr. Bill Stone, Planner Missouri Department of Transportation PO Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

RE: Planning Framework

Dear Mr. Kittrel, Ms. Meystrik & Mr. Stone:

The Boonslick Regional Planning Commission has reviewed the draft of the transportation planning framework that has been developed in cooperation with the Department of Transportation and transportation planning partners throughout the State. As a consortium of local governments and a partner in the transportation planning process we endorse the ideals and objectives of the transportation planning framework.

As a representative agency of local governments we have advocated for a participatory role in selecting and prioritizing transportation investments. We recognize the importance of transportation investments as it relates to community development, and ultimately the financial condition of our communities and our region.

The proposed planning framework goes beyond merely prioritizing investments. The planning framework provides a unique opportunity for partnering with the department to identify needs, collaborate on solutions, and intertwine transportation system development with local community plans. This framework will help insure that local and state investments parallel one another and maximize the impact of public investments.

The continual process of planning and prioritizing gives strength to the model and will allow it to adjust to the constantly changing needs in the State. The firm commitment to local transportation planning partners solidifies the

opportunity for local input into the statewide transportation plan. Through appropriate memorandums and built in quality controls we can be confident that this framework will allow for a quality transportation plan to be developed and implemented.

The Commission endorses the draft planning framework presented by the Department of Transportation and supports the efforts of the department in implementing this planning framework. We appreciate the relationship we have had with the department and look forward to increased opportunities to partner to make Missouri a great place to live and work.

If you have any questions regarding this matter please call the Commission at (636)456-3473.

Sincerely,

Charles H. Kemper

Chairman

Cc: Dave Hurt, MoDOT District 3



P.O. Box 100

Pomona, Missouri 65789-0100

(417) 256-4226

December 16, 2003

Missouri Department of Transportation 105 West Capitol Avenue Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

RE: Missouri's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision Making

We, the Executive Committee of the South Central Ozarks Council of Governments have reviewed the draft of the Planning Framework and endorse the document as one that is inclusive of local input through the Transportation Advisory Committee for this seven county region. We feel it is vitally important that we have a voice in the transportation progress in our region for current and future years. This document explains the process for local input, needs and project scoping and prioritization, and with mutual involvement of MODOT and local officials should serve this purpose for years in the future.

Leo Warren, Vice Chairman

Tony Ofchard, Secretary

Rex Epperly

Presiding Commissioner, Oregon Co.

Presiding Commissioner, Shannon Co.

Presiding Commissioner, Wright Co.

Larry Spence, Board Chairman

Presiding Commissioner, Howell Co.

David Morrison, Treasurer

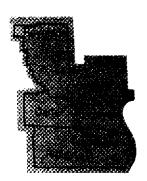
Presiding Commissioner, Ozark Co.

Don Shelhammer

Presiding Commissioner, Texas Co.

Presiding Commissioner, Douglas Co.

Prepared by James T. Dancy, Executive Director, SCOCOG



OZARK FOOTHILLS REGIONAL

PLANNING GOMMISSION

3019 FAIR STREET • POPLAR BLUFF, MO 63901 • PHONE (573) 785-6402 EMAIL ofrpc@mycitycable.com • FAX (573) 686-5467

February 5, 2004

Mr. Kyle Kittrel Transportation Planning Director Missouri Department of Transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Ms. Marcie Meystrick
Planner
Missouri Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 270
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Mr. Bill Stone Planner Missouri Department of Transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Re: Missouri's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making

Dear Mr. Kittrel, Ms. Meystrick and Mr. Stone:

The Ozark Foothills Regional Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) congratulates you on your efforts to establish a transportation planning framework which includes local participation in the process. It has always been our stated position that local participation should be an integral part of any cost and project allocation presented by the Missouri Department of Transportation for highways and roads in our region.

While the Ozark Foothills TAC, along with the Ozark Foothills Regional Planning Commission (RPC), supports the concept of the planning framework, confusion still exists over the prioritization of projects and who actually sets those priorities. The confusion is over the method used to place projects which are ranked high by the Ozark Foothills TAC into the planning matrix. We are gaining a better understanding of the application of the weights, but lack a clear vision of the impact of these on project prioritization in our region. Clarity will, we are sure, come with practice and application.

Mr. Kyle Kittrel, Ms. Marcie Meystrick and Mr. Bill Stone February 5, 2004 Page Two

Once again, we applaud the creation of the planning framework and acknowledge the hard work of MoDOT staff members. The Ozark Foothills TAC and Ozark Foothills RPC believe the planning framework is the direction to take and appreciate the opportunity to be involved in the development stages and, ultimately, in the planning process.

Sincerely,

Greg Batson

Executive Director

CC:

Mr. Tom Stehn, District Engineer, District 9

Mr. Scott Meyer, District Engineer, District 10



Southeast Missouri

REGIONAL PLANNING & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

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January 20, 2004

Mr. Kyle Kittrel Transportation Planning Director Missouri Department of Transportation P. O. Box 270 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Ms. Marcie Meystrick, Planner Missouri Department of Transportation P. O. Box 270 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Mr. Bill Stone. Planner Missouri Department of Transportation P. O. Box 270 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

> RE: A Commitment to Public Participation: Missouri's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making

Dear Mr. Kittrel, Ms. Meystrick and Mr. Stone:

The Southeast Missouri Regional Transportation Advisory Committee wishes to thank MoDOT for the opportunity to comment on the Practitioners Guide for Decision-Making for Transportation Projects in the State of Missouri. Members of the SEMO TAC have submitted comments on the Practitioners Guide and overwhelmingly support the decision to include local participation in the decision-making process. The Southeast Missouri Regional Planning and Economic Development Commission has advocated for active participation in MoDOT's planning process and also welcomes the opportunity to partner with MoDOT in setting transportation priorities.

The Executive Summary for the Planning Framework specifies that projects will be divided into three categories of needs prioritization—those being high, medium and low. Also, project prioritization will be based on high, medium and low rankings. This categorization is

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consistent with the suggestion from both the SEMO TAC and the SEMO Regional Planning Commission. We are still confused, however, with the latest draft of the Practitioners Guide as to how those priorities will be set. We are anxious to see how the high priority projects for the Southeast Missouri Region fit into the planning matrix. We are particularly interested in seeing how the prioritization matrix works in our rural area and want to have the opportunity to adjust the weighting if the matrix is used.

We look forward to working with MoDOT through the implementation of the Planning Framework and through the development of the memorandum of understanding and again express our gratitude for being included in the planning process.

Sincerely,

Chauncy Buchheit Deputy Director

Manay portlast

CB/kh

cc:

Mr. Tom Stehn, District 9



February 27, 2004

Mr. Bill Stone Transportation Planning & Policy Development Missouri Department of Transportation P.O. Box 270 Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Stone:

The Northwest Missouri Regional Council of Governments (NWMORCOG) in conjunction with the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) has reviewed and endorses the Missouri Department of Transportation's Planning Framework for Transportation Decision-Making.

Thank you for allowing members our TAC and staff of the NWMORCOG to be actively involved in training sessions and advisory meetings that helped address transportation concerns in our area.

Sincerely,

Kraig Robinette Executive Director

Cc: Wayne Voltmer, NWMORCOG Chairman TAC

Phone: (660) 582-5121 * 114 W. Third * Maryville, MO 64468 * Fax: (660) 582-7264 E-Mail: NWMORCOG@MAIL.NWMORCOG.ORG

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MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT

P.O. BOX 1865 JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102 (573) 634-5337 FAX (573) 635-6258

Bill Stone Missouri Department of Transportation Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Mr. Stone,

The Missouri Association of Councils of Governments has voted unanimously to support the Missouri Department of Transportation, Missouri Planning Framework.

This effort to bring about a systematic, longterm, and ongoing planning effort can only enhance our abilities when distributing limited resources.

Sincerely,

Harry Kogers, President